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DOVER RURAL DISTRICT

COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1965



C.F. LYNCH, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman - Councillor L.T. Meredith

Councillors

J.A. Greenwood

Mrs. F.V. Bennett

Mrs. E.K. Bridgstock

Mrs. J.E. Church

Mrs. F.J. Harvey

Mrs. J.E. Heath

Mrs. E.A. Manley

W.H. Archbold

(January-May)

R.G. Gilling

G.E. Hearn

K.J. Madge

L.T. Meredith

J.L.N. Natcott-West

W.J. Parkin

P.A.E. Parks

C.F. Reece M.M.

R. Sutcliffe

C.G. Lines

(May-December)

Miss S.D.M. Crocker

(May-December)

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OFFICERS AND STAFF

Clerk to the Authority:

A. Syrett, M.B.E., D.M.A., F.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health:

C.F. Lynch, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

J.A. Byrne, M.B., B. Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., D.T.M.&H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W.O. Armstrong, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

J.K. Freathy, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Assistants:

J.A. Taylor, B.E.M.

Miss M. Miles

Miss J. Surtees

Health Department,
Brook House,
Dover.

TO: The Chairman and Members of the Dover Rural District Council,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the Rural District for the year 1965.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 13,850 compared with 12,820 in the previous year. These figures represent the home population and include members of the Crown forces stationed in the area.

The health of the community as reflected in the vital statistics remained very satisfactory. The Birth Rate after adjustment for comparative purposes was 24.8. per 1,000 of the population compared with 18 for the previous year and 18 for England and Wales.

The Death Rate similarly adjusted was 8.2 per 1,000 of the population compared with 8.9 in 1964 and 11.5 for the Country as a whole.

The Infant Mortality rate at the exceptionally low level of 12 per 1,000 live births was less than half the rate for the previous year and considerably below the national rate which was 19.

Measles was the only infectious disease reaching epidemic proportions, almost 400 cases having been notified during the year.

The sanitary conditions of the District continued to receive close attention, further progress being made towards the sewerage of the larger parishes not already on main drainage.

Few of the properties included in the Council's second 5-year programme of Slum Clearance remained outstanding at the end of the year and rehousing of families from unfit properties already dealt with was expedited as a result of the increased number of new dwellings completed during the year.

I have to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and the Senior Public Health Inspector and other members of the Staff for their co-operation and assistance throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C.F. LYNCH

Medical Officer of Health.

S E C T I O N A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The district is bounded roughly as follows:- On the North by the Rural Districts of Bridge-Blean and Eastry and the Borough of Deal; on the East by the sea; on the South by the Borough of Dover, the sea and the Borough of Folkestone; and on the West by the Rural Districts of Elham and Bridge-Blean.

The following Civil Parishes are situated within the boundary:-

Alkham, Capel-le-Ferne, Denton with Wootton, Guston, Hougham-Without, Langdon, Lydden, Ringwould, Shepherdswell with Coldred, St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Temple Ewell with River, Whitfield.

Area (including inland water), 25,746.

Population: (a) Estimated mid-year Home population 13,850
 (b) 1961 Census Figures 11,467
 (c) 1951 Census Figures 10,504

(NOTE: All rates are calculated on the Registrar General's estimated mid-year Home Population of 13,850)

Number of dwellings, 4,517

Rateable Value, 468,260

Sum represented by ld. rate, £1,965

Density of population - Person per acre .54

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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

1. Births: (figures as supplied by Registrar General):

(a) Registered live births:-

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	119	106	225
Illegitimate	16	7	23
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	135	113	248

Comparability Factor = 1.39

Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	17.90
Crude Legitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	16.24
Crude Illegitimate Live Births per 1,000 estimated population	1.66
Adjusted Live Birth Rate for comparative purposes	24.88

(b) Stillbirths:-

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths) = 23.62

2. Deaths:

The figures used in this Report are those compiled locally adjusted for inward and outward transfers. The number of deaths registered during 1965 numbered 121, outward transfers 21 and inward transfers 75, giving a net allocation of 175 a surplus of one on the Registrar General's figure. This additional death is in "the male 65 plus" group.

The death classification is obtained from the information submitted by the local Registrar in his weekly returns.

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Registered	95	80	175

Comparability Factor:- 0.65

Crude death rate per 1,000 population 12.64

Adjusted for comparative purposes 8.22

3. Infant Mortality: Deaths under 1 year:

	Male:	Female:	Total:
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births = 12

4. Specially Recorded Deaths:

Measles (all ages)	Nil
Whooping Cough(all ages)	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..	Nil
Cancer (all ages)	27

Death rates from cancer per 1,000 Home Population:-

	<u>Dover Rural District:</u>	<u>England & Wales:</u>
(i) Lungs and Bronchus	0.578	0.553
(ii) Other	1.372	1.674
All Forms	1.950	2.227

(iii) Age Groups in which Deaths from Cancer occurred:

Site:-	25-44		45-64		65-74		75 & over		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Stomach	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	3	-
Lung, bronchus	-	-	3	1	2	-	2	-	7	1
Breast	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Uterus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Other Sites	2	-	1	1	1	4	3	2	7	7
Total	2	-	6	2	3	5	6	3	17	10

5. Causes of Death in 1965: And Age Groups:

Cause of Death	Male:	Female:	Total:
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	1	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	7	14
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	17	35
Coronary Disease, angina	20	15	35
Hypertension with heart disease	3	5	8
Other heart disease	13	10	23
Other circulatory disease	4	3	7
Pneumonia	7	4	11
Bronchitis	4	-	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	3	5
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7	11
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	3	3
Suicide	1	-	1
TOTAL	95	80	175

Age Groups in which Deaths occurred:

Age Groups	Male:	Female:	Total:
Under 1 year	2	1	3
1 year	-	-	-
2-4 years	-	-	-
5-14 years	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	-	-
25-44 years	3	1	4
45-64 years	22	6	28
65-74 years	27	18	45
75 and over	41	54	95
TOTALS	95	80	175

6. Comparative Rates:

	Dover Rural District:	England & Wales
1964:	1965:	1965:
(per 1,000 Home Population)		

Births:

Live Birth Crude	14.59	17.90	18.00
Live Births Adjusted	18.09	24.88	
Stillbirths	0.234	0.433	0.289

Deaths:

Crude	11.15	12.64	11.5
Adjusted	8.92	8.22	

Infant Deaths: (per 1,000 Live Births)

All causes under 1	27	12	19
year	(Deaths 5)	(Deaths 3)	

Maternal Mortality: (per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births):

All causes	-	-	0.25
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S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

Laboratory Facilities:

Clinical material for examination may be submitted to the Local Hospital Laboratory Service as well as to the Public Health Laboratory at Maidstone where all routine examinations of samples of milk, water etc., are carried out.

Hospitals:

There are no hospitals situated within the Rural District but three hospitals in the Borough of Dover, which are administered by the South East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board, provide appropriate facilities for general medical, surgical, maternity and infectious cases.

St. Augustine's Nursing Home, Kearsney, a privately run Home, admits medical and surgical cases.

Nursing and Midwifery Services:

The Kent County Council as the administrative Authority responsible, provides these services in the Rural area, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information on the work of the services during 1965:-

(a) Number of Home Nurses working in district	6 (including one Group Relief)
Number of Patients attended	345
Number of attendances (including casual visits)	7,470
(b) Number of Midwives working in district	7 (including one Group Relief)
Number of births attended	110

Clinics and Welfare Centres:

The County Council as the Local Health and Education Authority provides various specialist and consultant services for expectant and nursing mothers, infants, toddlers and children of school age.

The Regional Hospital Board also provides local clinic services including facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis and venereal disease.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

PARISHES	NO. OF HOUSES (CENSUS 1961)	NO. OF HOUSES ON MAINS WATER	REMARKS
Alkham	186	176	10 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Capel-le-Ferne	514	502	12 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Denton with Wootton	100	98	2 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Guston	198	198	
Hougham-Without	111	109	2 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Langdon	124	124	
Lydden	163	159	4 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Ringwould	481	481	
St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe	550	549	1 well and/or rainwater tank
Shepherdswell with Coldred	409	409	
Temple Ewell with River	395	395	
Whitfield	632	631	1 well and/or rainwater tank
TOTAL	3,863	3,831	32 wells and/or rainwater tanks
Kingsdown - included in Ringwould Parish			
Martin Martin Mill } - included in Langdon Parish			
NOTE: There are no houses provided with external standpipes only.			

Over 99% of the houses in the Rural District are supplied from the public mains. Of the twelve parishes in the district ten are supplied by the Mid Kent Water Company and two by the Folkestone and District Water Company.

Seventeen samples of water were taken from the mains supply, and all of these proved to be highly satisfactory on examination.

Drainage and Sewerage

Work proceeded on the Kingsdown, Ringwould and St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe Sewerage Scheme. The Langdon Sewerage Scheme (which includes Martin, Martin Mill and East Langdon) was commenced. Both of these schemes will discharge into the Deal Borough Sewers. There are four main sewerage systems in operation serving Capel-le-Ferne, Whitfield, Shepherdswell, Coldred, Lydden, part of Temple Ewell with River, and a small part of Guston. These systems discharge into the sewers of the adjoining Local Authorities of Dover and Folkestone.

Otherwise sewage is disposed of by cesspools, septic tanks, pail closets and chemical closets.

The supervision of the conversion of existing drainage systems to main drainage is under the control of the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector. A restricted free emptying service of cesspool and pail closets is operated by the Council by direct labour.

Number of houses on main drainage 2008
Number of houses on cesspools and septic tanks 2250
Number of pail closets and chemical closets 259

The number of cesspools emptied during the year was 2013
The number of loads removed was $468\frac{9}{14}$

Pail closets are emptied once a week during nine months of the year and twice a week during the three summer months. The total emptyings over the year being 7,995.

Refuse Collection

The collection and removal of domestic refuse and the collection of salvage is carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor and Senior Public Health Inspector and has worked very satisfactorily. The work was done by direct labour.

The number of dustbins emptied during the year was 336,934.

Weights of waste paper sold 39 tons 16 cwt. 1 qr.
Amount received for the material £355 17s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Regular routine and other inspections were carried out throughout the Rural District.

Factories Act, 1937

(i) Registered Factories:

With mechanical power	21
Without mechanical power	15
Other premises in which	
Section 7 is enforced	
by Local Authority	<u>14</u>
	<u>50</u>

(ii) Inspections:

Premises	Inspection- ions	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with mechanical power	27	NIL	NIL
Factories without mechanical power	10	NIL	NIL
Other premises	11	NIL	NIL
	48	NIL	NIL

(iii) Defects:

	Found	Remedied	Number of Defects		Number of cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
			Referred to H.M.	by Inspector	
Want of Cleanli- ness	NIL	NIL	NIL	1	NIL
Sanitary Con- veniences:- Unsuitable or defective	2	2	NIL	NIL	NIL
	2	2	NIL	1	NIL

Verminous Premises

There were no reports of verminous premises.

Destruction of Rats and Mice

Gassing, trapping and poisoning are carried out by a full-time Rodent Operator. Regular surveys of the area have been made during the year.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year:-

Number of infestations found and treatments carried out:

Rats, major 2
Rats, minor 163
Mice, major NIL
Mice, minor 10

Estimated kill:

Rats 564
Mice 48

Number of bodies found:

Rats 347
Mice 26

Camping Sites

There are ten sites licensed in the district for the summer months: Viz. Capol-le-Ferne - six; Hougham-Without - two; Martin Mill (Langdon) - one; Whitfield - one. Two sites at Capel-le-Ferne are licensed for a total of twenty-two caravans for the winter months. These sites are kept under regular supervision and are generally well operated and controlled. An influx of tents during August is a problem on some sites.

Work continued on a number of sites to bring them up to the standards required by the Council's conditions of licence under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 but this progress has been slow and formal action may have to be considered in some cases.

S E C T I O N D

HOUSING

Further progress with slum clearance in accordance with the Council's programme was made during the year, formal action in respect of five unfit houses being taken under the Housing Act, 1957. In many other cases, some the subject of action under the Housing Acts in previous years, owners were enabled to repair and improve their properties thus preserving valuable housing units.

No houses were demolished during the year.

In addition, three other properties were inspected for housing defects during the year and dealt with by informal action as required.

In connection with discretionary improvement grants, 13 schemes for improvement were submitted to the Council. All the schemes were approved. Total costs on the 13 schemes amounted to £15,908 4s. 4d. and the grants to £3,683 10s. 0d. Six schemes were completed during the year. Eleven schemes were submitted to the Council for standard improvement grants, all were approved. The maximum grant permitted on the schemes amounted to £1,353 0s. 0d.

Three hundred and seventeen houses were completed by private enterprise during the year and one hundred and eighteen were under construction at the end of the year.

Sixteen houses were built by the Council during the year and four houses, four flats and eight maisonettes were under construction at the end of the year.

S E C T I O N E

INSPECTIONS AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk

During the year regular visits were made to registered premises:

- (a) Number of Registered Distributors 21
- (b) Number of Registered Dairies 1

Sixteen Pasteurised milk samples were taken, all the samples were found to be satisfactory. One sample of cream was also taken during the year. This failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue test.

Shops Act, 1950

Regular inspections of shops were made, and any necessary instructions given in regard to the requirements of the Act. No formal action was taken.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Under Section 16(1)(a) of the above Act, sixty premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, and under Section 16(1)(b) five premises are registered. The types of premises registered under Section 16(1)(a) are Cafes 4; Shops 42; Camps 6; Public Houses 7; N.A.A.F.I. 1; and under Section 16(1)(b) Cafe 1; Shops 2; Butchers Shops 2.

No samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

Forty-five visits were made during the year to registered food premises and food shops in the district. The general standard was satisfactory and no formal action had to be taken. Special investigations were carried out in regard to complaints of a meat pie affected by mould and of a tin of peas containing a beetle. In both cases after full consideration of the circumstances, Council decided to take no legal action but the retailers were informed of the serious nature of the complaints.

Foodstuffs condemned during 1965

- 3 x 11 lbs. 2 ozs. Ye Old Oak Cooked Shoulder.
- 9 x 6 lbs. Krakus Luncheon Meat - Poland.
- 1 x 13 lbs. Ye Olde Oak Cooked Ham in Jelly.

All food condemned is surrendered to the Public Health Inspector and removed to one of the Council's refuse tips where it is buried.

DECLASSIFICATION

Authority: 25 CFR 171.10

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The shops continued to return most unsound foodstuffs to the wholesaler without calling in the Local Authority, which accounts for the small amount condemned during the year.

Food Poisoning

Seven notifications of suspected food poisoning were received during the year and all were subsequently accepted as confirmed cases, although in one small family outbreak the causative agent was not identified. This incident affected four members of a family of five, the patients all suffering from sickness followed by diarrhoea. Investigation revealed that the only common food consumed by the four affected (and not by the unaffected member of the family) was cooked beef and that the interval between ingestion and the onset of the symptoms was approximately twelve hours. Faeces specimens from four patients and the one family contact were negative for pathogenic organisms, as was a sample of the cooked beef; in view of the nature and clinical features of the illness the cases were regarded as "presumptive toxin food poisoning, agent not identified".

Two of the remaining three notifications concerned twin sisters aged 13 months, who were ill on arrival at a holiday camp in the district and later admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Faeces investigation revealed S. heidelberg infection, which was also confirmed in the two parents who remained symptom free. This infection obviously occurred prior to the family leaving to come to this area and, although the origin and preparation of the food causing the illness could not be pin-pointed, it is assumed that the illness originated from skinless sausages, probably insufficiently cooked, and consumed at the family's home on the day prior to travelling.

The last case was an isolated infection of a boy aged three years who was taken ill journeying home with his parents from a continental holiday; no other member of the family was affected. S. enteritidis was isolated from the patient's stool.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

It was not possible to visit all licensed premises during the year but those inspected were found to be satisfactory.

Shops, Offices and Railway Premises Act, 1963

At the end of the year 38 premises had registered by completing form O.S.R.1. required by the above-mentioned Act. It was not possible to make much progress in respect of inspections under the Act but it is hoped to visit most of the registered premises during 1966. It will then be possible to investigate any premises not yet registered but required to do so.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE:

Disease (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during 1965 by Age Groups (Corrected).

Age Group:	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Dysentery	Acute Pneumonia	Food Poisoning
Age Unknown	-	1	2	-	-	2
Under 1 year	-	1	11	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	34	-	-	2
2 years	-	1	36	1	-	1
3 years	1	-	52	-	-	1
4 years	-	-	51	-	-	-
5-9 years	-	-	187	-	-	1
10-14 years	2	-	21	-	-	-
15-24 years	-	-	2	6	1	-
25-44 years	-	-	3	1	2	-
45-64 years	-	-	-	-	4	-
65 years and over	-	-	-	-	5	-
TOTAL:	3	3	399	8	12	7
Admitted to hospital	-	-	2	4	-	2
Notification Rates per 1,000 Home Population	0.22	0.22	28.80	0.58	0.87	0.51
England and Wales	0.56	0.27	10.676	0.548	0.167	0.104

Immunisation and Vaccinations:

The schemes for Whooping Cough and Diphtheria immunisation and Smallpox and Oomyelitis vaccination continued under the administration of the Kent County Council and the following statistics for 1965 are made available by the courtesy of the County Medical Officer:-

(a) Whooping Cough Immunisation:

190 children received primary immunisation

(b) Diphtheria Immunisations:

Number of children resident in the Rural District of Dover who received:-

(a) Primary Inoculations 194

(b) Re-inforcing Inoculations 38

(c) Smallpox Vaccination:

In view of the amendment to the County Council's proposals under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, regarding records of vaccination against Smallpox the following is the sole information now available:-

<u>Primary Vaccination</u>	<u>Re-vaccination</u>
<u>1 Year:</u>	<u>School age but under 8 years:</u>
145	NIL

(d) Poliomyelitis Vaccination:

Figures for 1965 based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health:-

- (a) 3rd and 4th Dose (Salk and Oral)
- (b) 3 orals (Complete Course)

Year of Birth	(A)	(B)
1965	1	46
1964	33	111
1963	6	7
1962	1	3
1958 - 1961	115	18
1949 - 1957	14	9
TOTAL	170	194

The following table shows the results of the experiment. The first column shows the number of trials, the second column shows the number of correct responses, and the third column shows the percentage of correct responses.

The results show that the percentage of correct responses increases with the number of trials.

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Experiment 1		
Trial	Correct	Percentage
1	1	100%
2	1	100%
3	1	100%
4	1	100%
5	1	100%
6	1	100%
7	1	100%
8	1	100%
9	1	100%
10	1	100%

3. Tuberculosis - Annual Statement of Cases:

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
(a) Number of cases of tuberculosis on Register as at 1st January, 1965	48	48	15	16
(b) Number of cases notified under Regulations of 1952 for first time during year	-	2	-	-
(c) Other additions to Register	-	2	-	-
(d) Cases removed from Register during the year including recoveries or deaths (excluding deaths of unnotified cases)	-	3	-	-
(e) Cases on Register at end of 1965	48	49	15	16

Deaths of unnotified cases of tuberculosis:- Nil

The two female patients notified as suffering from pulmonary infection were aged 19 and 31 years respectively.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis or of patients on the Register during the year: of the three females whose names were removed from the register two were reported as recovered and one left the district.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925:

No action was necessary in regard to any tuberculous person employed in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936: Section 172:

No action was necessary with regard to the compulsory removal of tuberculous patients to hospital during the year.

Mass Radiography:

In August the Mass Radiography Service revisited the district and the Medical Director has kindly supplied the following statistics relating to the visit.

A total of 1,284 (575 males and 709 females) attended at the fifteen village centres, a decrease of 69 on the 1962 survey. Results were reported as follows:-

	Males:	Females:
Active Tuberculosis	-	-
Inactive Tuberculosis	1	5
Cancer of Lung	2	-

Disinfection:

The Rural District Council does not possess a disinfecting plant, and, where necessary, infected bedding and clothing is disinfected by arrangement with the Hospital Authority.

Number of premises disinfected - 2.

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